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INDUSTRY

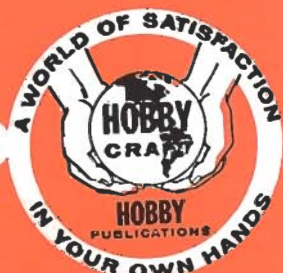
FEBRUARY
1979

Show Preview:

National Miniatures Show

— Also In This Issue —

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Command Study



By Rick Mataka, Special Projects Editor

IN the Wargaming, Boardgaming and Military Miniature hobby the consumer tends to be a thrifty individual. He saves parts in his scrap box from kits he's purchased through the years, one never knows when that particular part may come in handy for a game of diorama.

The same is true also, for the boardgamer. Many games have extra blank counters which the gamer can save in case he loses a counter. These also come in handy should he decide to expand an existing game or design his own.

However, not all gamers are this thrifty and accessories are now a booming business. Accessories can add a new dimension to a game, make it more picturesque, or aid a gamer in designing his own creation. Many of these items are innovative while others just help the gamers play a smooth game.

Most items available for Boardgamers aid the amateur game designer. The Avalon Hill Game Co. sells blank mounted maps and die cut counters. SPI sells the same items except their maps are on a heavy cardstock. Zocchi Associates also offers many different types of maps and counters from his inventory. He sells a clear acetate map that can be used to cover regular maps. This acetate map is numbered and china markers can be used on it to draw lines. An 8½" × 11" pad of hexes is also available from Zocchi. This can be used for Play by Mail games or as an aid to designing games.

Presently, there are only a few boardgame aids—*Play by Mail* and *Magnetic Counter Holders*. The Avalon Hill Game Co. produces Play by Mail kits. This allows gamers from different parts of the country to play a game via the postal service. These kits have been around for quite some time and have provided many hobbyists with challenging games with an un-

known opponent. More recently released are Magnetic Counter Holders for die cut counters, manufactured by Orisek Industries, which are proving to be a popular item. The Holders allow a gamer to mount his men on a wall and play his game.

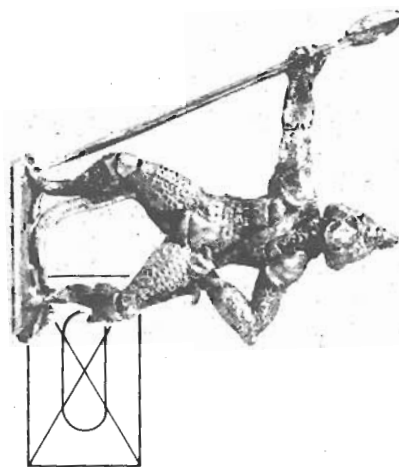
Role playing game accessories fall into three main categories: gaming aids, scenario information and 3-dimensional effects. The Judges Guild has numerous gaming aids consisting of reference sheets containing charts and tables for a game. This item alone can speed up a game as the referee doesn't have to thumb through a rule book to locate a chart.

Scenario Aids are items that can add a new dimension to an existing role playing game by presenting to the gamer new characters and surroundings. These type of items are available from The Judges Guild, TSR, Chaosium, and Zocchi Associates.

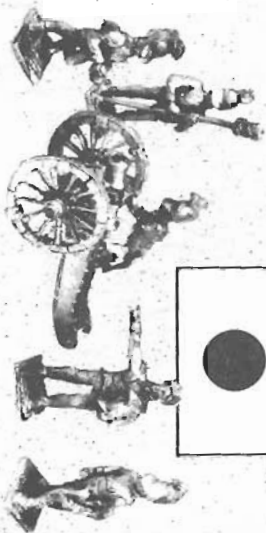
Three-dimensional effects are for gamers who like to use miniatures with role playing games. Basically, they are high quality cardboard cutouts that the gamer must assemble. These are available from Sator and Zocchi Associates. As you can see, all of the above items could be combined in any manner to offer a challenging and ever changing game.

The final area in which accessories are being produced is in the Military Miniature field. They consist of buildings for wargamers, diorama accessories for the collectors field, and terrain enhancers for all fields. For wargamers, there are many different types of buildings and terrain available in scales from the 1/300th to 25mm. The 1/300th scale items are available from Martian Metals and GHQ. Heritage Models has some items for the 15mm wargamer. In the 20mm and

(CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE)



WARGAMING · BOARDGAMING & MILITARY MINIATURES



Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

I was surprised to read some of Tom Shaw's comments in "The Guns of July" in the December issue of CM&HI. What surprised me were his assertions regarding the Origins convention. If I may, I wish to set the record straight.

Twelve years ago, an organization of hard-core wargamers entitled the International Federation of Wargaming was in full swing. It had some 500 or so members in the U.S. and Canada. As its Vice President, I instituted what was to become an annual entertainment for our fellows, the GenCon convention. The first show drew slightly over 50 gamers, but they came from California, Washington, Texas, New York, Canada, and many other places in North America.

It was a national draw from its inception, and in the four years which followed, the IFW ran what Avalon Hill in its advertising literature said was a premier national wargaming convention. (If Tom's memory needs a jog on that score, I'll be happy to send him a photocopy of one of the flyers from an AH game . . .)

But then IFW disbanded, for the gaming hobby had grown to such an extent that enthusiasts no longer needed to belong to a group to encourage postal play and help hobbyists con-

tact one another. At this juncture, our local club took over the sponsorship of GenCon, and this in turn gave way to sponsorship by TSR. Somehow, I have a feeling that this fact is what has caused Avalon Hill to have such a memory lapse and erroneously claim that their own Origins convention, now going on its fifth year, is the only national convention. Likewise, SPI gives it that billing, as they are now sponsors of the event, also. In fact, a misinformed writer in one of your competitors called GenCon a "regional" event. I thought it high time to set matters straight once and for all.

The fact is that GenCon has been national in advertising and participation since its founding. Origins is sometimes larger, but GenCon has received media attention in large metropolitan newspapers, TV and radio broadcasts, and national magazines, too. If horn tooting is what makes a national event, consider ours tooted! We will put on a dandy convention the third weekend in August at the facility of the University of Wisconsin, Parkside Campus, in Kenosha, Wisconsin—and we'll give it all the advertising and ballyhoo necessary to assure superior dealer participation and attendance.

At one time, GenCon was downgraded as a "miniatures" con-

vention, one which featured military miniatures and excluded boardgames. Currently, GenCon is billed as a fantasy oriented show. Rather than point out that Origins was strictly a boardgame convention until last year, I will state that GenCon does heavily feature wargames. TSR was sponsor of huge *Dungeons & Dragons* tournaments at each of the past four Origins Conventions and we had hundreds of players in each. May I suggest that AH and SPI sponsor more boardgames at GenCon if they are interested in seeing that that part of the gaming hobby gets its fair share of attention.

In order to further the hobby, I also invite them to discuss co-sponsorship of GenCon with TSR. After all, the purpose of both Origins and GenCon is to build the gaming hobby industry, encourage media attention, and attract new enthusiasts. It is always a good principle to cooperate when everyone's interest is thus served.

Thanks very much for this opportunity to sound off. If we handle things right, the gaming hobby might well grow to represent 4% or 5% of the total sales volume of hobby product dollars in 1979. TSR will certainly do its part.

Best regards,
E. Gary Gygax
TSR Hobbies, Inc.

COMMAND STUDY

25mm scale, Ava International has many plastic kits that can be used. For collectors miniatures, Coulter-Bennett and I/R Miniatures have

many different items available.

Terrain features, such as trees and gravel roads, are available from Life-Like Products, Colorite Scenery, and Woodland Scenics' Colorites' and Woodland Scenics'

products can easily be modified to fit almost any scale by cutting the branches and forming them as desired. Their ballast and grass products are also very good for the dioramist. The Life Like products are also good but are mostly for the 20 and 25mm scale. They are not as easily converted to the other scales because they are pre-made.

Overall, there are many companies now supplying accessories applicable to this hobby. While it would be impossible to mention all of them, mentioned are several of the main suppliers and manufacturers. Accessories are a by-product of this industry that is growing at a fast and steady pace. There is a little something for everyone, whether their interest is in Boardgaming, Wargaming or Military Miniatures. ■

Fantasy

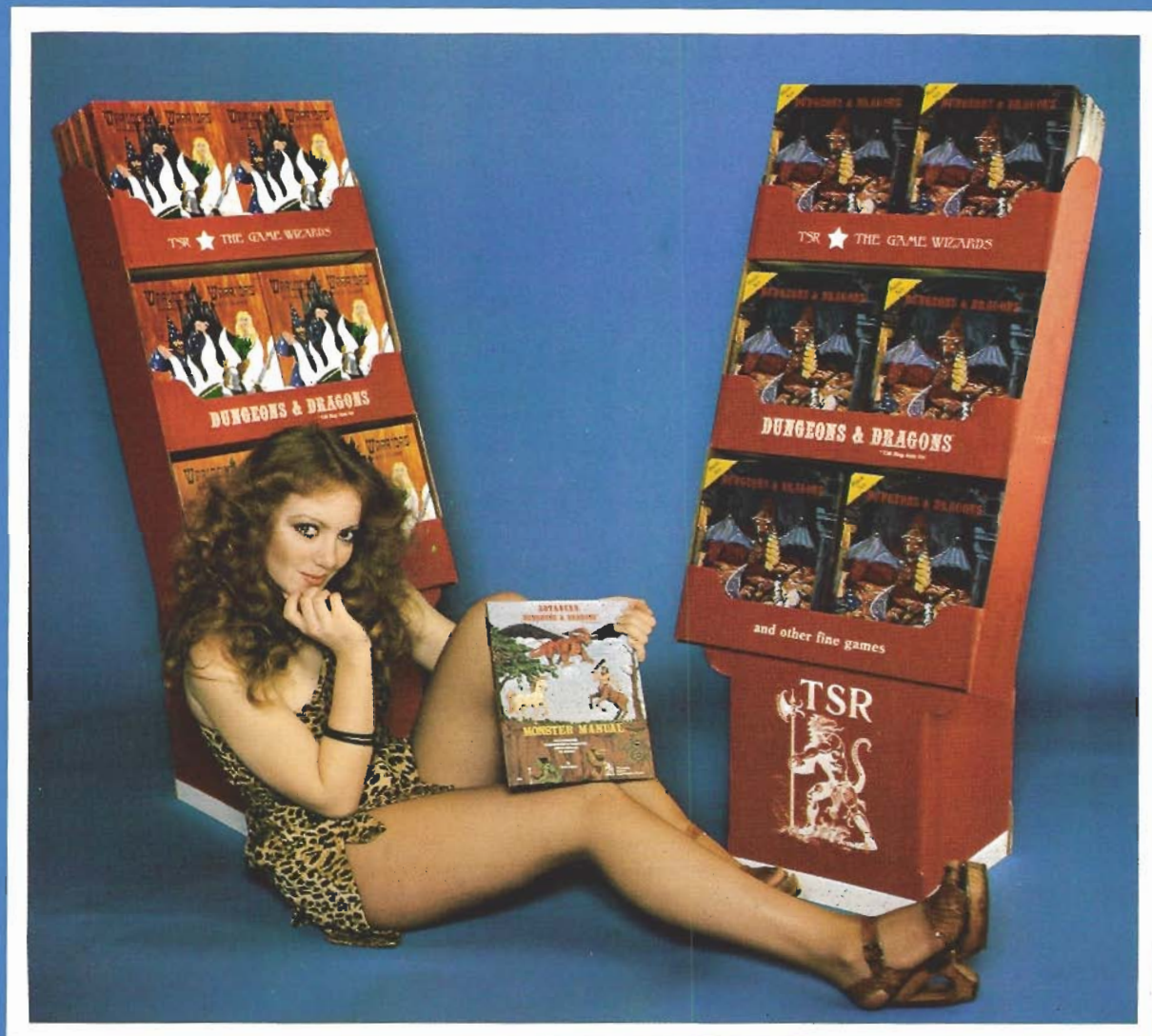


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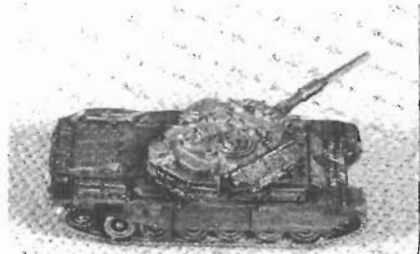
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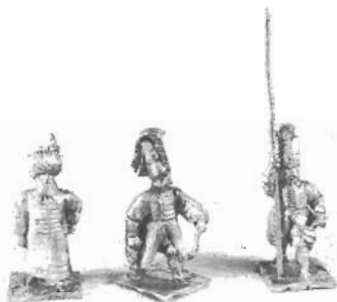


From the WWII Micro Armour range in the 1/285th scale is a vehicular castings. R-12 is a **Russian GAZ 67B**. Single piece casting, no assembly required. Packaged in a bubble pack with 5 per pack. \$3.10 retail.



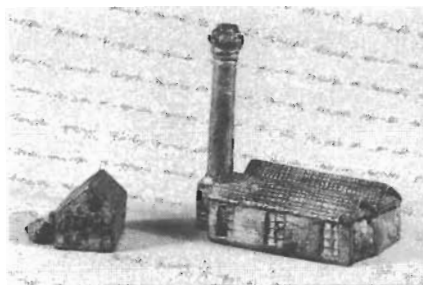
US-20 is a United States M-20 **Armoured Car** in the 1/285th scale from the WWII Micro Armour range. Cast in 2 pieces, assembles easily. Packaged in bubble pack with 5 per pack. \$3.75 retail. **Circle RSC #331**. See ad page 55.

MINIATURE FIGURINES



25mm scale figures from the Renaissance range. (From left to right) is

ZOCCHI ASSOC.



1/300th scale castings from the Martian Metal Accessory range. #1103 consists of a set of castings known as the **Factory**. 4 pieces in this set can be arranged as desired. Packaged in plastic bag. \$2.95 retail.



From the Spartan range in 25mm are fantasy castings. PFM-1 are called **Giant Ogres**. Single piece castings, no assembly is required. Packaged in a plastic bag with 3 per pack. \$4.00 retail.



The Tree People, PFM-2 is a single piece 25mm fantasy casting from the Spartan range. Some assembly is required. Packaged in a plastic bag with 2 per pack. \$4.00 retail. **Circle RSC #332**. See ad page 58.

RJ-1 an **Officer**, RJ2 an **Archer** and RJ-3 a **Spearman** all from the Haisary Infantry forces. All are single piece castings that require no assembly. Packaged in a box with 8 per pack. \$3.59 retail.

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15mm scale figures from the Ancient Armies range. AA-1 are single piece castings of an **Egyptian/Nubian Command Group**. Packaged in a bubble pack with 20 per pack. \$2.98 retail.



From the Ancient Armies range in 15mm are Egyptian castings. (from left to right) is AA-2 a **Spearman** and AA-3 a **Heavy Infantryman**. Both are single piece castings. Each is packaged in a bubble pack with 20 per pack. \$2.98 retail. **Circle RSC #276**.

See ad page 539

ARCHIVE MINIATURES



25mm scale figures from the Science Fantasy range. #2027 are castings known as the **Star Wizard** and his **Disciple**. Cast in 5 pieces, some assembly is required. Packaged in a plastic bag.



From the Science Fantasy range in 25mm are personality castings. #2029 is a set of castings known as **Momdog Maudes' Cantina Band**. Cast in 8 pieces, slight assembly is required. Packaged in a plastic bag. \$5.95 retail. **Circle RSC #277**. See ad page 52.

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Volunteer in long coat and in full gear
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See ad page 57.

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See ad page 53.

ZOCCHI



(From left to right) Z-01 is an **In-
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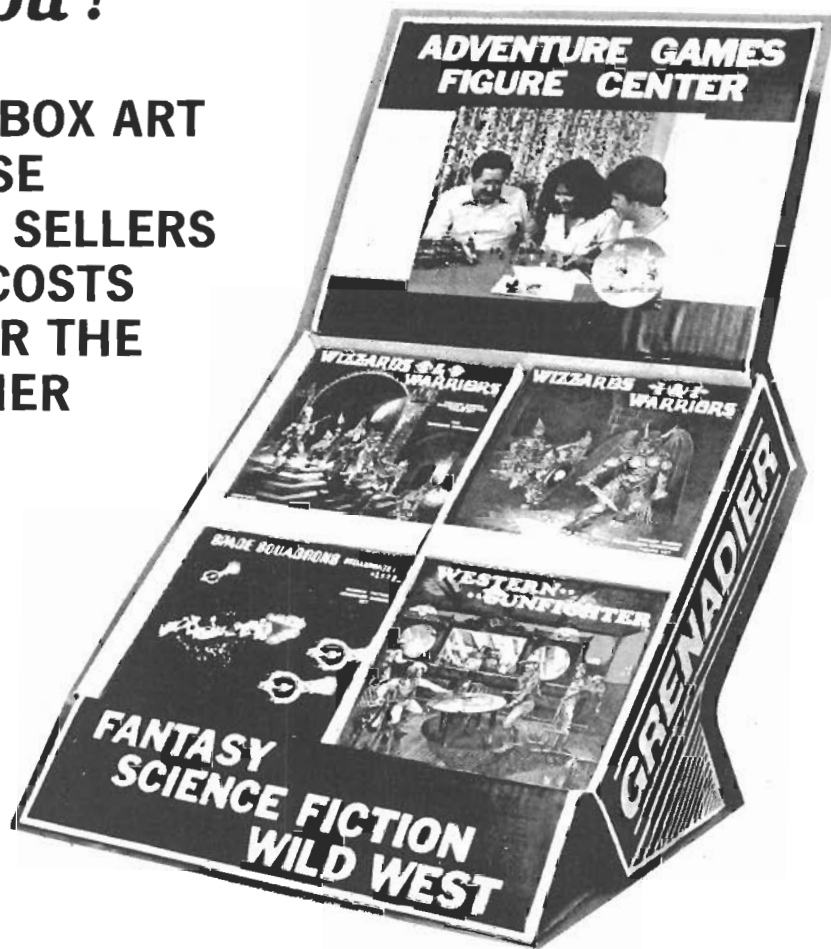
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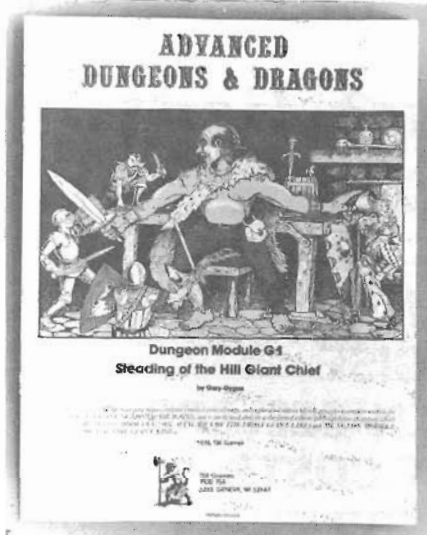
Cyborg is a boardgame simulation of a Sci-Fi/Fantasy situation. Players must guide a Princess to the Holy City while the forces of evil try to prevent it. There are rules for flying airships and magic included with the game. A simple game that is excellent for beginners or for veterans wanting an enjoyable game. Packaged in a zip lock bag with map, rules and die cut counters. \$8.95 retail. Excalibre Games, Box 29171, Brooklyn Center, MN 55429. **Circle RSC #323.**

FANTASY GAMES



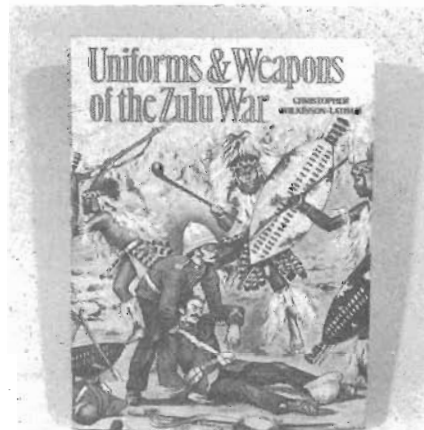
Conquest of North America is a boardgame simulation of the struggle that took place between the Indians and Colonials. Period covered by game is from the late 16th century to the end of the 19th century. An abstract game that uses area movement and the capture of key points on the map to determine victory. Fairly difficult game to learn, it should not be recommended to beginners. Packaged in a zip lock bag with map, rules and die cut counters. Fantasy Games Unlimited, Dept. CM., Box 182, Roslyn, NY 11576.

TSR HOBBIES



Dungeon Modules G1 Steading of the Hill Giant Chief is now available. Ready-to-play game scenario. Stands alone or can be combined with other Dungeon modules. \$4.98 retail. **Circle RSC #275.**
See ad page 49.

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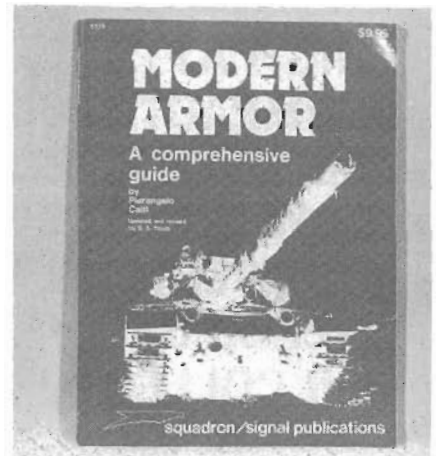


The Uniforms and Weapons of the Zulu War is a hard-cover book for the wargamer or figure collector dealing with this colorful period of history. 96-page book details not only the uniforms of the British and Allied forces but also the Zulu Armies. All 34 regiments are covered in this work. Book contains numerous photographs and sketches with excellent written information. Fine reference book for anyone interested in this period. \$12.50 retail.

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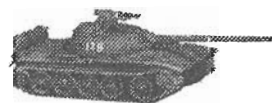
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SCRIBNERS



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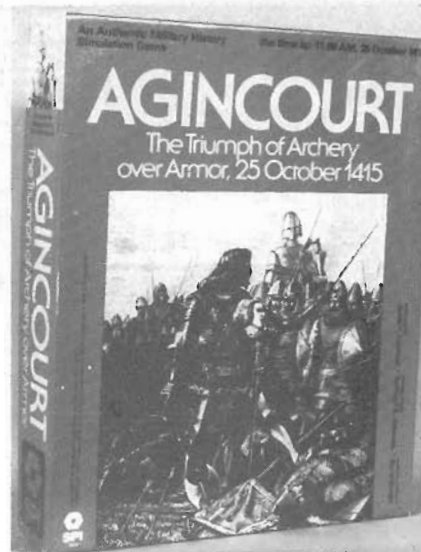
GAME DESIGNERS



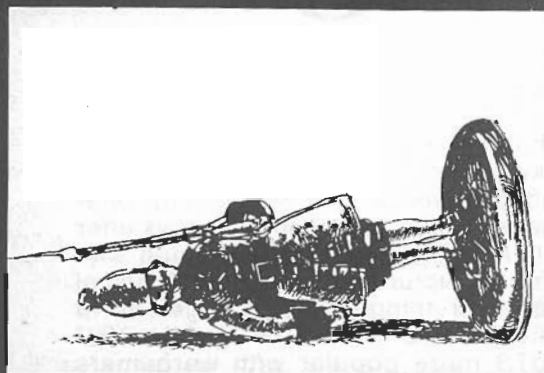
1942 is a boardgame simulation of the Japanese Campaign in the Pacific. Game takes into consideration the land, air and naval battles that were fought. Fairly simple game but should only be recommended to gamers with previous experience. Packaged in a zip lock bag with rules, map and die cut counters. \$5.00 retail.

of books. Each illustrates the operations that it performed in and the way it was handled. They contain numerous photographs showing the forces in action through the various theaters of WWII. Fine reference works for the wargamer or modeller wanting a different viewpoint of the operations these units performed. Each is a \$14.95 retail.

SPI



Agincourt is a historical boardgame simulation of this famous battle of 1415. This was where archery defeated armour. An interesting game that is fairly simple with the challenge in the playing. Should be recommended for those with some experience in board-gaming. Packaged in a bookcase box with map, rules, die cut counters, charts and tables. \$10.00 retail.



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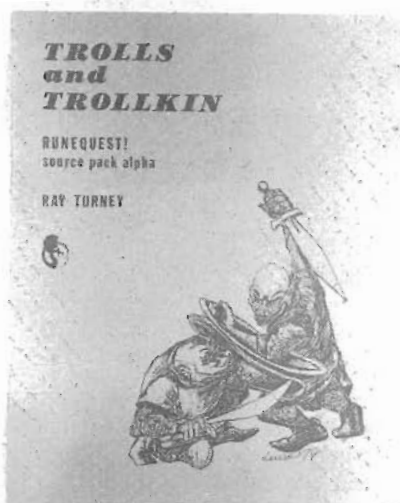
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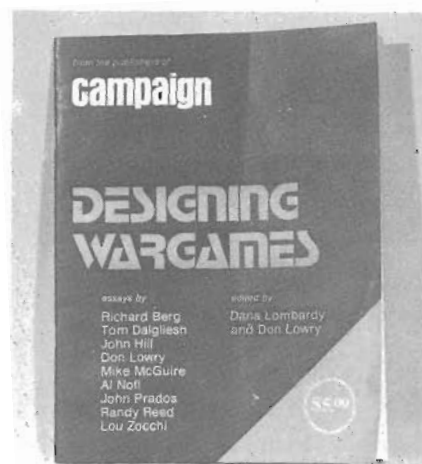
Sector One, Spacefarers Guide to Planets is an aid for Science Fiction role playing. Contains 100 descriptions of different types of planets that explorers might encounter. Information can easily be used by referees when players arrive on a planet to begin exploration. Good book for the Science Fiction role playing gamer. Little Soldier Games, Dept. CM, 12180 Nebel St, Rockville, MD 20852.

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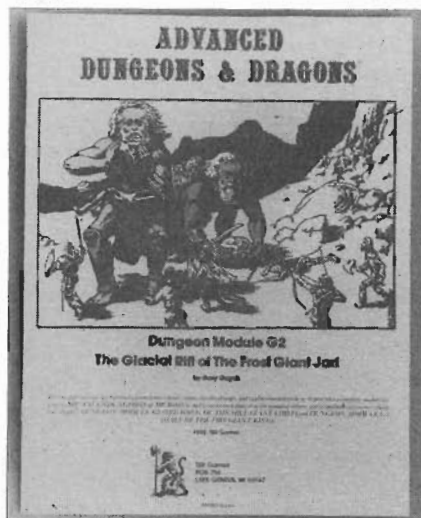
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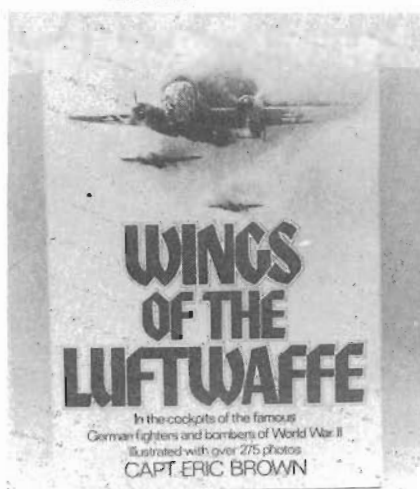
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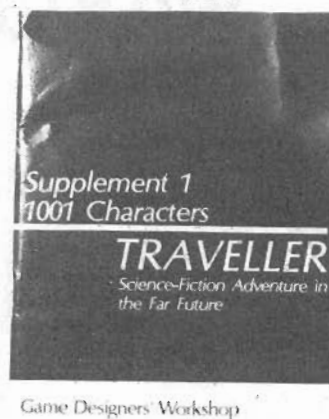
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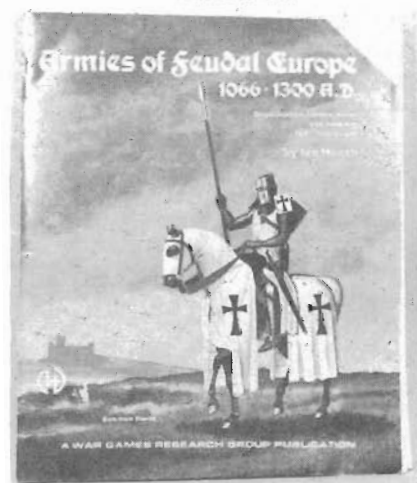
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